

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1473

Sponsors: Senators Berger; and Carpenter.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

July 16, 2002

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF CHARLES
2 EDWARD TAYLOR, THE WORLD'S FIRST AIRPLANE MECHANIC, AND
3 URGING THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE TO RECOGNIZE MAY 24 OF EACH
4 YEAR AS NORTH CAROLINA AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
5 DAY IN HONOR OF CHARLES EDWARD TAYLOR AND ALL THE
6 AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS WHO HAVE FOLLOWED IN HIS
7 FOOTSTEPS.

8 Whereas, Charles Edward Taylor was born on May 24, 1869; and

9 Whereas, in 1902, Charles Edward Taylor began working as a machinist for
10 Orville and Wilbur Wright at the Wright Cycle Company in Dayton, Ohio; and

11 Whereas, within six weeks, Charles Edward Taylor, using only a lathe and
12 drill press, built the first engine used to power the Wright Flyer; and

13 Whereas, Charles Edward Taylor's ingenuity earned him a place in aviation
14 history when the Wright brothers successfully flew their airplane on December 17,
15 1903; and

16 Whereas, after this historic event, Charles Edward Taylor continued to design
17 engines for the Wright brothers and later taught them to build aircraft engines; and

18 Whereas, in 1908, Charles Edward Taylor accompanied Orville Wright to
19 Fort Myer, Virginia, for test flights by the United States government and in 1909,
20 accompanied Wilbur Wright to New York for the Hudson-Fulton flights; and

21 Whereas, Charles Edward Taylor served as lead mechanic for Calbraith
22 Rodgers, who made his first transcontinental flight in 1911; and

23 Whereas, Charles Edward Taylor had a successful career in aviation
24 maintenance for more than 60 years; and

25 Whereas, Charles Edward Taylor was honored by the Federal Aviation
26 Administration with the establishment of the Charles Edward Taylor Master Mechanic
27 Award, which recognizes persons with 50 years or more of aviation maintenance
28 experience; and

29 Whereas, Charles Edward Taylor died in 1956; Now, therefore,
30 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

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2 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Charles
3 Edward Taylor and expresses its appreciation for the invaluable contributions he made
4 to aviation.

5 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly urges the citizens of this State to
6 recognize May 24 of each year as North Carolina Aviation Maintenance Technician
7 Day in honor of Charles Edward Taylor. The General Assembly further urges the
8 citizens of this State to participate in activities commemorating the 100th anniversary of
9 the Wright brothers' flight.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
11 resolution to the Flight Standards District Office of the Federal Aviation Administration
12 in the City of Greensboro.

SECTION 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.